

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

NOVEMBER 12, 2003

Mobile Infrared Transmitter for Emergency Vehicles (hereinafter "MIRT") is a traffic signal preemption device used to change traffic signals from red to green in seconds. This inexpensive device requires virtually no installation and can easily be moved from vehicle to vehicle.

While the purpose of this unit is to facilitate expedient and safe passage through intersections for authorized emergency personnel only, such as the police, fire and paramedics, recently, MIRT has been obtained over the internet by private individuals for their own private use. This is not only a violation of the restricted use/sale intended for MIRT but also poses a public safety concern.

According to MIRT's website, the regulation of legal users may vary from state to state and local to local governing bodies. Additionally, the traffic lights must be equipped with the technology that receives the Traffic Signal Preemption signal.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Seek and/or support legislation that prohibits private ownership and/or restricts the sale of Mobile Infrared Transmitter for Emergency Vehicles (MIRT);
2. Direct the County Counsel, to work with the Sheriff, the Fire Chief and the Director of the Department of Public Works to determine the feasibility of adopting a local ordinance that would restrict the sale and prohibit private ownership of MIRT and report back in thirty (30) days.

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MDA:aplc

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
BURKE	_____